In addition, RPO Bangalore has also conducted a "Passport Adaalat" at Mangalore and "Passport service camps" for some of the large IT companies based in Bangalore.

The issue of short supply of blank passport booklets is being followed with the Indian Security Press, Nashik to reduce the delay in issuing of passports.

Indian companies engaged in reconstruction work in Afghanistan

1709. SHRI A. VIJAYA RAGHAVAN:
PROF. ALKA BALRAM KSHATRIYA:
SHRIMATI PREMA CARIAPPA:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Indian public sector and private sector companies engaged in reconstructions of Afghanistan;

(b) the full details thereof;

(c) the details of the projects where Indian companies are engaged;

(d) the number of employees of these companies engaged therein alongwith the steps taken for their security;

(e) whether Indian national working in Afghanistan were kidnapped and murdered during November, 2005; and

(f) if so, whether Government have any proposal for adequate compensation to the aggrieved workers and their families working in Afghanistan in case of such mishaps?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI E. AHAMMED): (a) to (d) There are seven public sector companies presently working in Afghanistan. These include Indian Airlines (IA), Broadcasting Engineering Consultants India Ltd. [BECIL], Telecommunications Consultants India Ltd. [TCIL], Power Grid Corporation of India Ltd., Hindustan Machine Tools (International) [HMTI], Water & Power Consultancy Service Ltd. [WAPCOS], Indian Telephone Industries [ITI], Punjab National Bank [PNB], Rail India Technical and Economic Service Ltd, [RITES] and Central Warehousing Corporation [CWC]. These companies are involved in various projects including air ticket sales office, TV transmission, microwave transmission, power transmission, construction of common facility and tool room centre, dam

construction, telecom services, banking services, consultancy services and cold storage construction. There are 51 employees of public sector companies in Afghanistan.

In addition, there are nine Indian private sector companies presently working in Afghanistan. These include B Seenaya Company and C&C Construction Company, Aster Infra Structure Service Pvt. Ltd., IO Global Services Pvt. Ltd., Tata International Ltd., Ashok Leyland Ltd., Shapoorji Pallonji Construction Company, Angelique International, Global Relief Resources and Indo-Afghan Consultancy. There are 747 employees of private companies in Afghanistan.

The name of the companies, their project details and the strength of their staff are given in the table below:

Sl. No.	Name of Company	Public/Private Sector	Project Details	Strength of employees
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Indian Airlines	Public	Sales Office	04
2.	Broadcasting Engineering Consultants India Ltd. [BECIL]	Public	TV transmission	03
3.	Telecommunications Consultants India Consultants India Ltd. [TCIL]	Public	Microwave transmission	09
4.	Power Grid Corporation of India Ltd.	Public	Power transmission	02
5.	Hindustan Machine Tools (International) [HMTI]	Public	Common Facility and Tool Room Centre Project	11
6.	Water & Power Consultancy Services Ltd. [WAPCOS]	Public	Dam Construction	04
7.	Indian Telephone Industries [ITI]	Public	Telecom sector	05
8.	Punjab National Bank	Public	Banking	03
9.	Rail India Technical and Economic Services Ltd. [RITES]	Public	Consultancy	07
10.	Central Warehousing Corporation [CWC]	Public	Cold Storage construction	03
11.	B. Seenaya Company and C&C Construction Company	Private	Road construction	615
12.	Aster Infrastructure Services Pvt. Ltd.	Private	Telecommunication	05

1	2	3	4	5
13.	IO Global Services Pvt. Ltd.	Private	Internet service provider	25
14.	Tata International Ltd.	Private	Gen-set and buses	03
15.	Ashok Leyland	Private	Trucks and buses	02
16.	Shapoorji Pallonji Construction Company	Private	Civil construction	90
17.	Angelique International	Private	Civil construction	03
18.	Golden Relief Resources	Private	Construction company	02
19.	Indo-Afgan Consultancy	Private	Man power agency	02
	TOTAL:			798

The Embassy of India in Kabul has already issued a security advisory containing appropriate guidelines to the organizations/projects in which Indians are working. In cases of specific perception of threat, the local Government is approached to provide security.

(e) Yes Sir.

(f) The terms and conditions for compensation for Indian nationals working in Afghanistan are decided by the employing company.

Kailash-Mansarovar Pilgrimage

†1710. SHRI SURENDRA LATH:
SHRI KRIPAL PARMAR:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the number of pilgrims who visited Kailash-Mansarovar during the last three years, year-wise;

(b) the total amount spent on this annually and facilities provided to the piligrims by Government;

(c) whether Government propose to provide subsidy to the pilgrims going on Kailash-Mansarovar pilgrimage on the line of Haj pilgrims;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.